

toward everyone the way he did with me, and this is the highest praise any public figure can attain.

Teddy's relationship with me during his life was spectacular. Not once did he disappoint me, and he provided continuous support and much-needed laughs. Teddy's legacy lies in many places. It lies in his legislative and political accomplishments. It lies in changes in the lives of his friends and constituents. It lies in his family bonds, and his love for the sea. However, it also lies in the way he left us. Teddy's illness at first seemed unfair and depressing. This is not the case at all. Teddy was able to teach everyone who watched him how to fight and how to succeed. Many people do not realize that he outlived everyone's initial predictions, and lived seven times as long as anyone thought possible. This was not because his doctors were wrong about the severity of his cancer, but because this prediction did not consider that they were dealing with Teddy. Not once did he stop fighting. In fact, he took the most aggressive and strenuous approach to fighting his cancer, and always remained hopeful. Teddy's death taught me that no cause is lost, and that every day is worth living.

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS AND AMERICAN POWER ACT

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I was proud to cast my vote today in the Environment and Public Works Committee for S. 1733, the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act. At this critical juncture in our Nation's history, we face an economic crisis, an energy security crisis, and a global climate crisis. The good news is that the solutions to these problems are intertwined with one another. This bill will help us meet these challenges and emerge stronger than we are today. We have an urgent responsibility to move forward and I want to thank the chairman of our committee, Senator BARBARA BOXER, for her leadership and courage in taking action on this bill today.

If we do not act on this bill which invests in clean, domestic energy, we will be stuck with an energy policy that is undermining our national security and our economy.

If we do not act on this bill which invests in the industries of tomorrow, we will continue to lose clean energy jobs, jobs that stem from American inventions and ideas, to countries overseas.

If we do not act on this bill which provides significant investment in clean fuels and public transit, we will lose an opportunity to change the way we move people and goods around this country. Right now, the transportation sector represents 30 percent of our greenhouse gas emissions and 70 percent of our oil use. If we could double the number of transit riders in the United States, we would reduce our dependence on foreign oil by more than 40 percent, nearly the amount of we import from Saudi Arabia each year.

If we do not act on this bill, we face irreversible, catastrophic climate change. Our children and grandchildren—my two grandchildren—face a world where there is not enough

clean water, food, or fuel, a world that is less diverse, less beautiful, less secure.

I am glad that the majority members of the Environment and Public Works Committee convened today in order to act. And we needed to act on this bill today because this is a global problem and we want all countries to act. In just a few weeks, the international community will meet in Copenhagen to work on an international agreement to do just that.

I am hopeful that Copenhagen will produce an agreement on the architecture of a final climate regime in which countries make a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I hope we have an agreement that spells out the mechanism for reaching and enforcing those targets as well as outlining the financing for the developing world.

In my role as chairman of the Commission for Security and Cooperation in Europe and as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, I speak often to our colleagues in Europe and around the world. And what other countries want to know before they take additional steps—or take first steps—on climate change is: Where is the United States? They are impressed with the action the Obama administration has taken. They are happy to see that the House has acted.

But for the countries of the world to commit to reduce greenhouse gasses in Copenhagen in just a few weeks, they want to see that both Houses of Congress are serious. They want to know that the Senate is making progress toward producing comprehensive climate legislation. The vote today in the Environment and Public Works Committee demonstrates that progress.

But this bill is good for this country and good for Maryland even if we don't get an international agreement. Marylanders understand the opportunities this bill promises. With this bill, we can invest in clean energy jobs: like those at Algenol in Baltimore where they are national leaders in making fuel from algae; like those at Volvo-Mack Truck in Hagerstown where they are making hybrid trucks; like those at Chesapeake Geosystems, a Maryland company that is an east coast leader in geothermal heating; and like those at DAP that makes spackling that is used in weatherizing homes and businesses.

With this bill, we can invest in the transportation improvements Marylanders so desperately need. Transit ridership in Maryland increased by 15 percent in 2008. But recent train and bus accidents in the DC Metro area demonstrate that we need new investment in transit. Our transit systems will not be a safe and reliable solution to our pollution and energy security problems without it.

Marylanders also know the costs of inaction. The people of Smith Island are watching their island disappear under rising sea levels. The crabs, fish, and other aquatic life Maryland's

watermen rely on are disappearing along with their way of life. And it is only going to get worse. Maryland's sea levels are projected to rise 3.5 feet. That means thousands of Marylanders are going to lose their homes and farms. This bill provides critical assistance to States, especially coastal States such as Maryland, to help address these challenges and protect our treasured resources such as the Chesapeake Bay.

The vote that we took today in the Environment and Public Works Committee is just the beginning of putting America back in control of its energy future. And we must remember that even after Copenhagen, any deals we reach, any papers we sign, are still but the foundation. The work must continue with earnest followthrough, dedication to truly changing the way we work and live and move around this Earth. That is work for each of us, and we took one important step forward today.

CLEAN ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS ACT

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, yesterday I introduced S. 2729, the Clean Energy Partnerships Act. I am proud to have as cosponsors for this bill Senator MAX BAUCUS, Senator AMY KLOBUCHAR, Senator SHERROD BROWN, Senator TOM HARKIN, Senator MARK BEGICH, and Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN, who has been working with me on the carbon conservation program after she introduced S. 1576, the Forest Carbon Incentives Program Act.

As we work toward creating a clean energy economy in America, we need a strategy that protects our environment while protecting and creating jobs and revitalizing our economy.

The bill I introduced yesterday is an important part of that strategy. By creating partnerships among manufacturing, utilities, agriculture, and forestry, we can reduce costs now to help transition to a clean energy economy tomorrow.

As we work to develop new technologies to reduce emissions in the future, we also need to find cost-effective ways to limit emissions in the short-term that do not cost us jobs. This bill is about creating a lower cost strategy to help us reach our emission reduction goals while protecting and strengthening our economy.

We can counteract, or offset, our current carbon emissions by investing in practices like sustainable agriculture and forestry projects that capture and store carbon. A ton of carbon is a ton of carbon. That is what this offset bill is all about.

For example, we can change farming practices through more efficient application of fertilizer, the use of cover crops, or by utilizing tillage practices, called "no till farming." No-till farming reduces carbon emissions by leaving old plant matter buried underground. In contrast, conventional tillage moves old plant matter from last